

0080

*\* Incoming  
C/025/0005*

**From:** "Panguitch Anglers" <bigfish@color-country.net>  
**To:** <daronhaddock@utah.gov>  
**Date:** 5/17/2008 8:35 PM  
**Subject:** Alton Coal Mine/Coal Hollow Project

To whom it may concern,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed project near Alton, Utah. Project # C/025/0005.

I traveled to this area for many years and now reside at The Cottonwood Meadow Lodge on Highway 89 about 5 miles north of the town of Hatch, Utah.

As I'm sure you are aware that the major industry in Garfield County is Tourism. Our guests, all who are here to visit the National Parks or fly fish in our beautiful streams comment as to " How peaceful it is here, How quiet it is here, How dark are our night skies, How clear and blue the skies are throughout the day ". I often wonder what they will say in a few years if this project is approved.

They come from all across our country. And they come because we have something unique. They leave their polluted skies behind. And come to what is well know as the cleanest skies in the United States. When I tell them of the proposed project they stand in disbelief and ask WHY? And I ask why?

Yesterday I spent the day in our beautiful Bryce Canyon National Park with some guests. As we were there we read the words of Chief Seattle. He stated that the reason the Indian people were so reluctant to give us the land was that they knew we did not appreciate it and we would soon destroy it. Need I say that with many parts of our country his words could not have been more true. Are they soon to become true here is Southern Utah. Then at the next view area the words were read to me " you can take away anything but you can take away our dark skies ".

For decades people have stressed that we must protect our environment. Has it not been proven that we are destroying it each time we fire up a coal fired power plant.

Are the alternatives not clear!

Thank you,  
Jerry and Jan Drummond  
[www.cottonwoodmeadowlodge.com](http://www.cottonwoodmeadowlodge.com)